

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SRC2-626

21 July 1970

COUNTRY: CSSR

SUBJECT: Emil ERLBECK

DOI: To September 1968

SOURCE: [] a former Major in the Foreign Intelligence Directorate of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Interior (MV). He defected in September 1968. His information has proven accurate.

REFERENCE: EGBA-87553 dated 10 January 1969, Attached
BDC Documents

1. The MV cryptonym EDMUND stands for Emil ERLBECK, a very important case. [Comment: Source thinks that this man was in contact with # RIVET and that he was an agent. Source later identified # RIVET from a photograph: he is Lt. Col. Ludek TOMEK (DPOB 4 April 1922 Prague) a very intelligent man who in late 1958 or early 1959 became the MV's first Resident in Conakry, Guinea, and since the early 1960's has been Deputy Chief of the Africa/Asia Department (Dept. 4).]

2. ERLBECK was sent to Africa. it is vaguely recalled that he was a writer or journalist. As a very rough guess, this may have happened about 1958 or 1960. ERLBECK might have had something to do with German Development Assistance and might have had a mission to report on it or to work against it.

3. The MV did not engineer ERLBECK's trip to Africa. The opportunity arose somehow and the MV seized it. ERLBECK also had some peripheral contact with the West German Federal Intelligence Service (BND), perhaps through an institute or student program. (Comment: Source noted that he cannot recall hearing anything of ERLBECK in recent years and that perhaps the MV's contact with him was broken off.)

4. Comment: Source read the documents on ERLBECK which were found in the Berlin Document Center (EGBA-87558) but evidently the documents did not jog his memory. He made note of the fact that one document shows ERLBECK was best man at the wedding of Wernfried PFAFF # POP who later became an MV agent.

See also
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See also

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Source commented that it could be that he had seen ERLBECK's name in the reporting of the MV's interrogations which were held while PFAFF was in prison in Czechoslovakia. See SX-13059 for details on PFAFF.

5. Comment: Source could not recall why the EDMUND operation was very important and Source was not certain that Emil ERLBECK was involved in the EDMUND operation. Hence, pending independent confirmation or new material on which to base a redebriefing, the reader is cautioned to read this as a set of very vague and very old recollections of a Source who was never an expert on operations in Africa.

Originator: [] rah SB/I/DB

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Based on debriefings at Headquarters on 26 December 1968 and 14 February 1969